

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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**February 25, 2003**

**FROM:** **EMIL A. MARZULLO**, Director  
Special Districts Department

**SUBJECT: EMERGENCY WELL REPAIRS - COUNTY SERVICE AREA 70,  
IMPROVEMENT ZONES J & L (OAK HILLS & PHELAN/PINON HILLS)**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Acting as the governing body of County Service Area 70, Improvement Zones J (Oak Hills) and County Service Area 70, Improvement Zone L (Phelan/Pinon Hills):

1. Find that an emergency exists in County Service Area 70, Improvement Zone J (CSA 70 J) and Improvement Zone L (CSA 70 L), requiring immediate action to prevent and mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, and essential public services by repairing/replacing Water Wells No. 1 and 3 serving the Oak Hills area and Well No. 9a serving the Phelan/Pinon Hills area.
2. Find that mitigating the emergency would be hampered by a delay resulting from competitive solicitations to complete the repairs, and that awarding multiple purchase orders/contracts to respond to the emergency is necessary.
3. Authorize the issuance of three purchase orders/contracts in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for each purchase order/contract in accordance with Public Contract Code Section 20134(a), to complete the repairs/replacements required for Well Nos. 1, 3, and 9A in Oak Hills and Phelan/Pinon Hills as follows (4 votes required):

Howard Pump of Barstow  
Tri County Pump of San Bernardino  
So. Cal Pump of Riverside

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** CSA 70 J provides water service to the residents of the Oak Hills area with approximately 2,300 service connections and operates and maintains four water wells, eleven storage reservoirs, and over one hundred miles of pipeline. CSA 70 L provides water service to the residents of Phelan/Pinon Hills area with approximately 5,350 service connections and maintains and operates 11 wells, 23 booster stations, 21 storage reservoirs and approximately 300 miles of pipeline.

**Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors**

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In the period between November 26, 2002 and January 16, 2003, Wells No. 1, 3, and 9a, located in those communities, malfunctioned and ceased to operate. Due to the current mild winter season and continuing drought conditions, these failures have begun to reduce water storage levels to below minimum safe levels required for fire protection and human consumption.

Upon evaluation of the well failures, it has been determined that the submersible pump and motor assemblies on all three wells failed, rendering them inoperative and that the well casings require varying levels of cleaning and rehabilitation to prevent future malfunctions. The procedure for repair entails removing the column shafts, wiring, pumps and motor units, and having them repaired and/or replaced. The casing and well shafts will be cleaned and rehabilitated as necessary. Similar repairs and rehabilitation of wells using Howard Pump, Tri-County Pump and So Cal Pump have ranged from \$55,000 to \$80,000.

These contractors were selected based upon past performance as District on-call repair contractors. The most recent similar repair and rehabilitation was completed on Well No. 2 in CSA 70 J by So. Cal Pump of Riverside for approximately \$65,000. On February 3, 2003, staff directed the contractors to evaluate the wells and to provide costs for the necessary repairs to allow the wells to be placed back in service as soon as possible. District estimates completion of the repairs/replacement to be accomplished by April 15, 2003, as replacement equipment manufacture and delivery lead times dictate a 45-day period.

Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050, the District will report back to the Board of Supervisors in two weeks, and on a bi-weekly basis thereafter, regarding the status of this emergency situation.

Section 20134 of Public Contract Code authorizes the Board of Supervisors to award an emergency purchase order/contract without going to formal bid procedures. Section 22050 requires that this be accomplished by a 4/5 majority vote. County Policy No. 11-05 also requires Board of Supervisors approval for services exceeding \$25,000.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** This action has been reviewed by County Counsel (Jean-René Basle on February 6, 2003, the Purchasing Department, and reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Wayne Thies, Administrative Analyst) on February 14, 2003.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The estimated emergency repair costs for CSA 70 J are not expected to exceed \$160,000 and repair costs for CSA 70 L are not expected to exceed \$80,000. Sufficient appropriations and funds are available in the District's Fiscal Year 2002/03 operating budget as follows: CSA 70 J (ECA-165) and CSA 70 L (ECG-170). This action has no impact on the County General Fund. Repair or replacement of the equipment may result in greater energy efficiency and cost savings for the districts.

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S):** First

**PRESENTER: EMIL A. MARZULLO 387-5950**